AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-25 (Canceled)

26.   (Currently Amended) A method for preserving a preferred presentation layout of a web page authored on a first computing system and rendered on one or more second computing systems, wherein, said layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said one or more second computing systems, said method, comprising:

obtaining a layout of display elements on a web page;

determining, using a first computing system, a primary split direction for the web page, preserving a preferred layout of said web page when rendered by one or more second computing systems, wherein said preferred layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said one or more second computing systems;

determining splits of the web page, in the primary split direction; and

generating, after receiving a request from a user, an internal representation of the web page where the layout of the web page is primarily by rows or primarily by columns in accordance with the splits; and

enabling the size of selected text of the web page to be locked.

27.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, where the step of determining the primary split direction includes the step of receiving input from a user indicating the primary split direction.

28.   (Canceled)

29.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, further comprising displaying the web page on a display screen, including indications of the locations in of the determined splits.

30.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the request received from a user is a publish request from a user.

31.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 26, wherein the request received from a user is a preview request from a user.

32.   (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

means for obtaining a layout of display elements on a web page;

means for determining a primary split direction for the web page, said primary split direction preserving a preferred layout of said web page when rendered by web browsers hosted by at least one other system, wherein said preferred layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said web browsers hosted by at least one other system;

means for determining splits for the web page, in the primary split direction; and

means for enabling the size of selected text of the web page to be locked generating, after receiving a request from a user, an internal representation of the web page where the layout of the web page is primarily by rows or primarily by columns in accordance with the primary split direction.

33.   (Currently Amended) A computer-readable storage medium storing program code for causing a computer to perform the steps of:

obtaining a layout of display elements on a web page;

determining a primary split direction for the web page, preserving a preferred layout of said web page when rendered by web browsers hosted by at least one other computer, wherein said preferred layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said web browsers hosted by at least one other computer;

determining splits in the web page, in the primary split direction, and

enabling the size of selected text of the web page to be locked generating, after receiving a request from a user, an internal representation of the web page where the layout of the web page is primarily by rows or primarily by columns in accordance with the primary split direction.

34.   (Currently Amended) A system for preserving a preferred presentation layout of a web page authored on a first computing system and rendered on one or more second computing systems, wherein, said layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said one or more second computing systems, said system comprising:

a device for obtaining a layout of display elements on a web page, and a primary split direction for the web page preserving a preferred layout of said web page when rendered by various web browsers; and

memory storing software code for determining splits in the web page, in the primary split direction and <u>enabling the size of selected text of the web page to be locked</u> ~~generating, after receiving a request from a user, an internal representation of the web page where the layout of the web page is primarily by rows or primarily by columns in accordance with the primary split direction.~~

35.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the primary split direction is set by the user.

36.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the primary split direction is a default setting.

37.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the primary split direction is either vertical or horizontal.

38.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein, for a vertical primary split direction, the software code generates needed splits in a columnar orientation.

39.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 37, wherein, for a horizontal primary split direction, the software code generates needed splits in a row orientation.

40.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the software code displays the web page indicating the splits.

41.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 34, wherein the layout includes frames and wherein the software code determines splits for each frame independently.

42.   (Previously Presented) A method for preserving a preferred presentation layout of a web page authored on a first computing system and rendered on one or more second computing systems, wherein, said layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said one or more second computing systems, said method, comprising:

obtaining a layout of display elements on a web page;

determining, using a first computing system, a primary split direction for the web page, preserving a preferred layout of said web page when rendered by one or more second computing systems, wherein said preferred layout is susceptible to influence by browser configuration on said one or more second computing systems;

determining splits of the web page, in the primary split direction; and

enabling the size of selected text of the web page to be locked.

43.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, where the step of determining the primary split direction includes the step of receiving input from a user indicating the primary split direction.

44.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, further comprising displaying the web page on a display screen, including indications of the locations in of the determined splits.

45.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 42, further comprising generating an internal representation of the web page where the layout of the web page is primarily by rows or primarily by columns in accordance with the splits.

46.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the generating step is performed after receiving a publish request from a user.

47.   (Previously Presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the generating step is performed after receiving a preview request from a user.